Financial Problems faced by Central Universities

2872. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that most of Central Universities are facing financial problems;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the proposals for monetary grants for all the Central Universities are lying with the University Grants Commission for a long time; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Memorandum submitted by Democratic Youth Federation's Coochbehar District Committee

2873. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any memorandum had been received by the Station Superintendent of New Coochbehar on the 28th December, 1987 from Democratic Youth Federation's Coochbehar District Committee;

(b) if so, what were the salient features of the said memorandum and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) if no action has yet been taken thereon, what are the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The demand include daily running of Kanchanjunga Express, restoration of Janata Express. Introduction of a new fast train from New Coochbehar to Howrah, increase in reservation quotas, extension of doubling between Malda-New Jalpaiguri-Guwahati, provision of Yatri Niwas at New Coochbehar, etc.

(c) The memorandum has been examined by the Railway administration. It has been decided to extend the Kanchanjunga Express and run it as a daily superfast service between Howrah and Guwahati in the new time table. This will also serve New Coochbehar. Other suggestions have not been found feasible for the present.

Platform Sheds at Bali

2874. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to provide platform sheds at Bali halt and Rajchandrapur halt of Eastern Railways;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No. Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The existing facilities are adequate for Halt Stations.

Janata Express

2875. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reintroduce the Janata Express between Assam and North Bengal;

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof; and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) It is proposed to rationalise/amalgamate the Janata Express with 57/58 Kanchanjunga Express and to run the latter as a daily superfast train between Howrah and Guwahati.

Halisahar Railway Station

2876. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 2nd January, 1988 the Railway authority assured the O.C. of Bijpur Police Station that they would repair and widen the roads under their jurisdiction near about the Halisahar Railway station; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Sir.

(b) Repairs to the Station Road will be taken up shortly. Some temporary repairs have been completed. The work of widening the Road from Station Road to the condemned Yard Gate will be considered for inclusion in the Railway's Works Programme 1989-90 subject to availability of funds.

Air India Flight to China

2877. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to operate Air India flight to China;

(b) whether any request has been received from the Government of China; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and the progress so far made, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) to (c) The subject of signing of air services agreement with China has been discussed. Air India has an interline agreement with Civil Aviation Administration of China (CAAC).

Connection of NH-2 with NH-6

2878. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to connect NH-2 with NH-6 so that Raniganj-Durgapur area could be connected with Kharagpur-Midnapore area *via* Bankura; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

On-going Railway Projects

2879. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of progress of the on-going railway projects and new railway lines, section-wise;

(b) when the construction works started; and

(c) by when these projects are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c) A Statement of the on-going new Railway Line Projects not yet fully commissioned is attached. [*See* Appendix CXLV, Annexure No. 100]. The completion dates of projects, wherever not indicated in the statement, will depend on availability of resources in the coming years.